

# SANTA MONICA PUBLIC LIBRARY BOARD



## Minutes of the SPECIAL Meeting of February 3, 2011 To Be Approved

**Call to Order** A SPECIAL meeting of the Library Board was called to order by Chairperson, Edward Edwards, at 7:04 p.m., Thursday, February 3, 2011 at the Ocean Park Branch Library, Community Room, 2601 Main Street, Santa Monica.

**Roll Call**

**PRESENT:** Boardmember Blackwell, Boardmember Breisch, Chairperson Edwards, Boardmember Oppenheim and Vice Chair Stern

**ABSENT:** None

**ALSO PRESENT:** Greg Mullen, City Librarian; Rachel Foyt, Administrative Analyst

**Public Input** No report.

**Approval of the Library Board Minutes** Motion by Boardmember Oppenheim, seconded by Chairperson Edwards to approve the minutes of the Library Board meeting of December 9, 2010. The motion was approved by the following vote:

AYES: Boardmember Blackwell, Boardmember Breisch, Chairperson Edwards, Boardmember Oppenheim and Vice Chair Stern

NOES: None

ABSENT: None

**Report from the Friends of the Library, a Library Support Group** Greg Mullen, City Librarian, gave a report on the Friends of the Library December Board meeting. In November the Bookstore held a special book sale of more valuable books. At the December Board meeting the Friends approved \$26,000 in funding for furniture for the Ocean Park Branch Library. They also voted unanimously to approve Sharon Wells as a new member of the Friends Board.

**Budget Plans** Mr. Mullen gave a report on the Library budget plans. As part of the budget process the Library is reviewing its vision, mission and goals. Development of the mission and vision statements will lead to the Library objectives for the year. The proposed new mission statement is “to

provide resources, services and a place to encourage the community to Read, Connect, Relax and Learn”.

The Library Board reviewed the Library’s service benchmarks. The service benchmarks were created to demonstrate to the public what the library accomplishes and the benefits of the Library to the community.

The Board suggested adding the number of Library programs held each year to the service benchmarks.

The major Library projects for fiscal year 2011-2013 are:

- Pico Branch Library – finalizing Library plans and managing construction
- Integrated Library System – finalizing procurement of the new system and managing implementation and transition
- Imagine Santa Monica – creation of a new component that features active community participation

**State Budget  
Potential Effect on  
Santa Monica  
Public Library**

Mr. Mullen reported that Governor Brown’s budget proposal recommends eliminating the California Library Services Act (\$12.9 million), the Public Library Foundation (\$12.9 million) and the State literacy program (\$4.5 million). The elimination of these funds would mean the elimination of these programs and a loss of federal funds as well.

For Santa Monica the elimination of these funds would mean a cut of about \$205,000 to the City’s general fund and an end to transaction-based reimbursement. Transaction-based reimbursement reimburses libraries for loaning materials to other libraries’ residents.

The elimination of the California Library Services Act would indirectly impact the Library by abolishing of the Southern California Library Cooperative (SCLC). SCLC fosters inter-library cooperation, resource sharing and economies of scale. Opportunities for a broad spectrum of discounts from vendors, networking, deliveries, training and reference support would be eliminated.

**Tour of the Ocean  
Park Branch  
Library  
Renovations**

The Library Board took a tour of the newly remodeled Ocean Park Branch.

**Nationwide Current  
Library Trends -  
Review of Library  
Journal Articles**

The Board discussed an editorial from the January 31, 2011 New York Times titled *Mr. Pullman’s Compass*.

**Secretary’s Report  
Services and**

The Board received an update on Library services and programs. Mr. Mullen distributed the OverDrive statistics for December and January.

## Programs

EBook checkouts have increased. The current size of the eBook collection is 2111 volumes.

Santa Monica Citywide Reads begins February 14 and runs through March 12. This year, Citywide Reads celebrates its ninth anniversary with the featured book Wench by Dolen Perkins-Valdez. Wench is the story of four slave mistresses over the course of three summers in pre-Civil War America.

Citywide Reads invites participation in facilitator-led public book discussions held throughout Santa Monica as well as many special events at the Main Library.

Citywide Reads special events include:

- A special screening of Alex Haley's Roots from February 14 through 19
- An afternoon with the cast of Roots on February 19
- An afternoon with Dolen Perkins-Valdez February 26
- A book discussion and author talk with Heidi Durrow author of The Girl Who Fell From The Sky March 2
- A book discussion of The Help by Kathryn Stockett on March 9
- Highlights of the Mayme A. Clayton Library and Museum on March 12

Reference staff eliminated the requirement for pre-registration for public computer classes. Classes would fill during the first day of registration but then the registrants would not show up for the class. Now classes are filled.

## Update on Library Staffing

Library Page recruitment is under way.

The Santa Monica History Museum offered Library staff an orientation to museum resources in January and will hold tours of the museum for Library staff in February.

## Update on Library Facilities and Equipment

The Ocean Park Branch remodeling project is completed. The exterior signage is scheduled to be installed next month.

The presentation of conceptual design for the Pico Branch Library is scheduled for City Council on February 22.

New pavers and plantings were installed in the Main Library parkways.

## Update on Library Security and Safety

The Library Rules of Conduct ordinance is going to City Council on February 8. The ordinance amends the Santa Monica Municipal Code regarding rules for use of City libraries to allow the Library to suspend the

Library visitation and borrowing privileges of patrons violating the Library Rules of Conduct.

Smoke alarm systems have been installed in the Montana and Fairview Library Branches.

**Library Statistics**

Staff distributed Library statistics for October, November and December 2010. Board discussion followed.

**Agenda Building**

The Library Board asked that the following items be included in the next Library Board agenda: an update on Citywide Reads; an update on the Library budget; an update on the Pico Branch Library project; an update on the Integrated Library System; and discussion of the Library Board annual video report to the Boards and Commissions.

**Adjournment**

Chair Edwards adjourned the meeting at 8:27pm.

Attest:

Approved:

Greg Mullen

City Librarian

Edward Edwards

Library Board Chair

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